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BARROWFORD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR
THE YEAR
1955.

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Robert E Robinson,

Medical Officer of Health.

BARROWFORD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health:

Robert E. Robinson, M.A.
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Surveyor & Sanitary Inspector:

F. Highfield,
A.R.I.C.S., M.I.Mun. E.,
M.R.San.I., C.R.S.I.

Assistance is given by the Sanitary Staff of the Public Health Department, Nelson, by arrangement between the two authorities.

Public Health Department,
21 Carr Road,
NELSON.

20th July, 1956.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Barrowford Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I am happy to present my Annual Report for the year 1955. It was quite a good year for Barrowford. The Infantile Mortality was 15.6 and the Maternal Mortality Rate nil. As on previous occasions consideration of one year's figures are of little value when small numbers are being considered.

Twenty five cases of Measles, four of Scarlet Fever, two of Acute Poliomyelitis and four of Tuberculosis were notified throughout the year. The cases of Measles were fortunately mild ones.

Barrowford is to be congratulated on its welfare scheme for the aged. Many anxieties are removed by contact made with the supervision of the old folk by its own welfare visitor.

I have the honour to be,
Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

R. E. ROBINSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

Local Legislation (including byelaws) in force in the district.

	Operative Date.
Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act, 1889.	30th August, 1889.
Infectious Diseases (Prevention of) Act, 1890.	4th August, 1890.
Public Health (Amendment Act) 1890.	18th August, 1890.
Public Health (Amendment Act) 1907 (Parts 2, part 3 (except ss 39, 40, 41, 42, 50 and 51) part 4 (except ss 58 and 67) and Part 6.	28th August, 1907.

Byelaws.

Nuisances	1894	18th July, 1894.
Slaughter Houses	1894	18th July, 1894.
Offensive Trades	1894	18th July, 1894.
Common Lodging Houses	1894	18th July, 1894.
New Streets	1925	7th February, 1925.
Clean Food Byelaws	1950	11th August, 1950.
Building Byelaws	1953	18th November, 1953.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area in acres	1387
Population - Census, 1951	4766
Registrar General's Estimate of Home Population, mid-1955	4750

Note: This figure is a decrease of 10 on the figure supplied for mid-1954.

Number of inahbited houses at the end of 1955 according to rate books	1902
Rateable Value	£31,346
Sum represented by a penny rate	£134

The main industries are cotton and silk weaving, dyeing, printing and bleaching.

The level of employment has declined due to bad trade in the textile manufacturing section of the industry. Contraction within the industry has resulted in redundancies, some firms having closed down.

VITAL STATISTICS.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Live Births -			
Legitimate	32	30	62
Illegitimate	1	1	2
Total	33	31	64

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated home population:

Crude	13.5
Adjusted	15.2
Comparability Factor	1.13

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Still Births -			
Legitimate	4	1	5
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total (Live and still) Births 72.4

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated home population 1.05

Combined Live and Still Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated home population 14.52

Illegitimate Birth Rate per 1,000 total (Live and Still) births 28.98

Illegitimate Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated home population 0.42

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Deaths	36	44	80

Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated home population:

Crude	16.8
Adjusted	14.1
Comparability Factor	0.84

Deaths from pregnancy, childbirth and abortion - nil

Maternal Mortality per 1,000 total (live and still) Births nil

Deaths of infants under one year of age

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Legitimate	1	-	1
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births 16

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	1	-	1
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Neo-natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	16
Excess of deaths over live births	16

LIVE BIRTHS.

The total of 64 Live Births was a decrease of 2 on the figure for the previous year, but 5 more than the mean of the previous 5 years.

This gave a Crude Birth Rate of 13.5 per 1,000 population, which was 0.4 per 1,000 less than last year but 1.1 per 1,000 more than the mean Crude Rate for the previous 5 years. It was also 1.0 per 1,000 greater than the corresponding rate for the Borough of Nelson.

When comparing the rate externally, adjustment has to be made to allow for the composition of the population, and by using the comparability factor of 1.13 supplied by the Registrar General an adjusted Live Birth Rate of 15.2 per 1,000 population was obtained, which is 1.4 per 1,000 greater than the figure for Nelson, and 0.2 per 1,000 greater than the figure for England and Wales as a whole.

Only 9 of the 64 births assignable to Barrowford actually took place within the area.

There were 2 illegitimate births registered a reduction of 3 on the previous year.

STILL BIRTHS.

There were 5 Still Births registered during the year, an increase of 2 on the previous year, giving a Still Birth Rate of 72.4 per 1,000 total (live and still) births, and 1.05 per 1,000 population. Both these figures are high when compared with those of England and Wales as a whole, and the Borough of Nelson, but this is to some extent on account of the small numbers involved in the Barrowford calculation.

DEATHS.

The total of 80 deaths (36 males and 44 females) registered during the year was a reduction of 11 (all males) on the figure for the previous year and was less than the mean of the 5 previous years by 4.8.

The Crude Death Rate of 16.8 per 1,000 population was a reduction of 2.3 per 1,000 on the previous year and 1.2 per 1,000 on the mean rate for the previous 5 years.

The comparability factor to allow for the composition of the population is 0.84, so that the Adjusted Death Rate is 14.1 per 1,000 compared with 11.7 per 1,000 for England and Wales and 13.2 per 1,000 for the Borough of Nelson.

The principal causes of death were similar to recent years. The main difference in numbers attributable to individual causes was a decrease of 8 in the deaths from Coronary Disease, reducing the rate for this cause from 3.15 per 1,000 last year to 1.68 per 1,000 this year, and the deaths from Malignant Neoplasms, etc., which show a reduction of 5 cases or 1.04 per 1,000 population.

In the age groups the 70-75 years group again had the largest number with 21.25% of the total, followed by the 75-80 years group with 20.0% of the total. The deaths of persons over 70 years of age or over accounted for 63.7% of the total compared with 61.6% in 1954 and 45.3% in 1953.

Of the total deaths assigned to Barrowford for 1955, 33.7% took place outside the area and except in one case these deaths occurred in hospitals or institutions.

From the monthly analysis of deaths it will be seen that the largest number occurred in March.

There was an axcess of 16 deaths over the number of live births during the year.

INFANT DEATHS.

Only one Infant Death was registered during the year, and the cause was prematurity. This was a reduction of 2 on the previous year and is the smallest number so registered since 1951.

This one death gave an Infant Mortality Rate of 16 per 1,000 live births, compared with 45 per 1,000 in 1954. The mean rate for the 5 years 1950-54 is 39.

MATERNAL DEATHS.

It is very pleasing to report that 1955 was the seventh successive year that no maternal death was registered.

The following tables show:-

1. Various Barrowford Rates for the years 1950-55 and the average of the 5 years 1950-1954.

2. Birth Rates, Death Rates and Analysis of Mortality for 1955 for England and Wales, Nelson and Barrowford.

3. Analysis of Deaths according to causes.

4. Summary of Ages at Death.

5. Monthly Analysis of Deaths showing Rates.

VARIOUS BARROWFORD RATES FOR THE YEARS 1950-1955 AND THE AVERAGE OF THE 5 YEARS 1950-1954.

Year	Live Births		Deaths (All Causes)		Still-births		Maternal Mortality		Infant Mortality			
									Total		Neo-natal	
	No. Registered	Rate per 1000 pop.	No. Registered	Rate per 1000 pop.	No. registered	Rate per 1000 total births	No. of deaths registered.	Rate per 1000 total births	No. of deaths registered	Rate per 1000 live births	No of deaths registered	Rate per 1000 live births
1955	64	¥ 13.5	80	¥ 16.8	5	72	nil	nil	1	16	1	16
1954	66	13.9	91	19.1	3	43	nil	nil	3	45	3	45
1953	53	11.2	75	15.8	1	19	nil	nil	2	38	1	19
1952	57	12.0	82	17.2	1	17	nil	nil	2	35	1	18
1951	70	15.0	90	19.2	3	41	nil	nil	1	14	1	14
1950	47	10.2	86	18.7	1	21	nil	nil	3	64	1	21
Aver. 5 yrs 1950-1954	59	12.4	84.8	18.0	1.8	28	nil	nil	2.2	39.2	1	23

¥ Adjusted: Live Birth Rate (Comparability factor 1.13) = 15.2
Death Rate (Comparability factor 0.84) = 14.1

Comparative Table showing Birth Rates, Death Rates and Analysis of Mortality for the year 1955.

	England and Wales	Nelson	Barrowford
	Rates per 1000 home population		
Births:		*	ø
Live Births	15.0	12.5	13.5
Still Births	0.35	0.18	1.05
	23.1(a)	14.2(a)	72.4(a)
Deaths:		*	ø
All causes	11.7	14.9	16.8
Tuberculosis (all forms)	0.15	0.09	0.21
Respiratory	0.13	0.09	0.21
Non-respiratory	0.02	nil	nil
Cancer (all forms)	2.06	2.44	2.32
Lung & Bronchus	0.39	0.36	0.21
Other cancer	1.67	2.14	2.10
Maternal Mortality (total)	0.64(a)	nil	nil
Maternal causes (excl. abortion)	0.54(a)	nil	nil
Due to abortion	0.10(a)	nil	nil
	Rates per 1000 live births		
Infant Mortality	24.9(b)	12.0	15.6
Neo-natal Mortality	17.3(b)	7.2	15.6

(a) Per 1000 total (live & still) births
(b) Per 1000 related births

* Adjusted: Live Birth Rate 13.6 per 1000 (Comp. Fact. 1.09)
Death Rate 13.2 per 1000 (Comp. Fact. 0.89)

ø Adjusted: Live Birth Rate 15.2 per 1000 (Comp. Fact. 1.13)
Death Rate 14.1 per 1000 (Comp. Fact. 0.84)

Analysis of Deaths during 1955 according to Causes.

Cause of death	Number of Deaths M.	F.	Total	Death Rate per 1000 of population
Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	1	1	0.21
Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-	-
Syphilitic diseases	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal infections	-	-	-	-
Acute polio-myelitis	-	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1	-	1	0.21
" " Lung, bronchus	1	-	1	0.21
" " breast	-	1	1	0.21
" " uterus	-	-	-	-
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	4	3	7	1.68
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	1	1	0.21
Diabetes	1	2	3	0.63
Vascular lesions of nervous system	5	9	14	2.94
Coronary disease, angina	4	3	7	1.68
Hypertension with heart disease	1	2	3	0.63
Other heart disease	3	6	9	1.89
Other circulatory disease	2	2	4	0.84
Influenza	2	1	3	0.63
Pneumonia	2	-	2	0.42
Bronchitis	4	5	9	1.89
Other diseases of respiratory system.	-	-	-	-
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	1	-	1	0.21
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-	-	-
Nephritis and nephrosis	-	-	-	-

Cause of death	Number of deaths M.	F.	Total	Death Rate per 1000 of population.
Hyperplasia of prostate	-	-	-	-
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-	-
Congenital malformations	-	-	-	-
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	5	4	9	1.89
Motor vehicle accidents	-	1	1	0.21
All other accidents	-	3	3	0.63
Suicide	-	-	-	-
Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-	-
All causes	36	44	80	16.82

Summary of Ages at Death during 1955

Age groups	Deaths in Barrow ford M.	F.	Outward trans-fers M.	F.	Inward trans-fers M.	F.	Total deaths allocated to Barrowford. M.	F.	Total	% of each group to total deaths
Over & under 0 1 yr	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	1.25
1 2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	1.25
2 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 15	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	1.25
15 20	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20 25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 30	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	1.25
30 35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 40	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
40 45	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	2	2.50
45 50	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	2.50
50 55	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 60	-	1	-	-	1	1	1	2	3	3.75
60 65	2	2	-	-	-	1	2	3	5	6.25
65 70	4	5	-	-	2	2	6	7	13	16.25
70 75	3	6	-	-	4	4	7	10	17	21.25
75 80	6	6	-	-	2	2	8	8	16	20.00
80 85	4	3	-	-	-	4	4	7	11	13.75
85 90	3	3	-	-	-	-	3	3	6	7.50
90 95	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1.25
95 100	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	27	28	1	1	10	17	36	44	80	100.0

Monthly Analysis of Deaths during 1955 showing Rates

Month	Actual deaths in Barrow-ford	Outward trans-fers	Inward trans-fers	Nett deaths for Barrowford	
				Number	Rate per 1000 pop'n
January	6	-	2	8	1.68
February	4	-	2	6	1.26
March	11	-	2	13	2.73
April	-	-	2	2	0.42
May	5	-	1	6	1.26
June	4	1	2	5	1.05
July	3	-	6	9	1.89
August	1	-	2	3	0.63
September	5	-	3	8	1.68
October	4	-	2	6	1.26
November	7	-	2	9	1.89
December	5	1	1	5	1.05
Totals	55	2	27	80	16.82

GENERAL PROVISION

OF

HEALTH SERVICES

FOR THE AREA

Particulars of the Public Health Officers of the Authority are given on page 2 of the report.

Hospitals.

The Hospital Services for the area are provided by the Burnley and District Hospital Management Committee of the North-West Regional Hospital Board.

Venereal Diseases Clinics.

These are also provided by the Burnley and District Hospital Management Committee at the Victoria Hospital, Burnley, where separate clinics are held twice a week for both male and female patients.

Laboratory Facilities

The Services of the Central Pathological Laboratory, Salus Street, Burnley, are available for the use of your authority and samples of milk were submitted for examination during the year, the results of which are given in the appropriate section of the report.

Tuberculosis Service.

The Chest Clinic for the area is situated at Marsden Hospital, Burnley.

Other Services.

The Lancashire County Council provide and maintain the following services which are administered from the Divisional Health Office, Reedley, Nr. Burnley.

Ambulance Service.

The area is served by ambulances from the Divisional Ambulance Station at Reedley and both ambulance and sitting-case cars are available.

Child Welfare Service.

The Infant Welfare Centre for Barrowford is held at the Congregational Sunday School, Hill Top.

Home Help Services.

The services of Home Helps are provided for cases as follows:-

1. Maternity - Domiciliary Confinement.
2. Maternity - Patient discharged from Maternity Home.
3. Acute sickness, particularly where the care of young children becomes necessary due to the incapacity of the mother.
4. Chronic sickness, including tuberculosis, and the aged sick.
5. Aged and infirm, including blind.

Applications are dealt with through the Divisional Health Office and the Service is under the control and supervision of a full-time organiser.

Home Nursing Service.

There are two district nurses of the Divisional Staff assigned to Barrowford, one full-time and the other part-time along with the Blacko area.

Mental Health Service.

The duties of the County Council under Section 51 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, are delegated to the Divisional Health Committee and the work is carried out by the Duly Authorised Officer and the Mental Health Worker.

Midwifery Service.

One nurse-midwife of the Divisional Staff is assigned to the Barrowford and Blacko area.

Clinics.

Ante-natal, Dental, Minor Ailments, Orthopaedic and Ophthalmic Clinics are provided outside your area and are available for Barrowford residents.

Further information relative to these services may be obtained from my report as Divisional Medical Officer.

National Assistance Acts, 1948 & 1951 - Section 47.

It has not been found necessary to take any action under this section during the year

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.

The water supply is obtained from the neighbouring Borough of Nelson, whose sources of supply are two gathering grounds of surface and spring water. One of these is situate on the east side of the town and supplies Coldwell reservoir and the other on the west side and supplies Ogden reservoirs.

Routine inspections of the catchment areas are made regularly to ensure freedom from pollution and also the water is treated before going into supply. Samples for examination are taken regularly both of the raw and treated water, and in the case of any adverse bacteriological finding, the chlorine dosage is increased.

The supply to the area has been satisfactory both in quality and quantity during the year.

Supplies to Dwellinghouses.

(a) Direct from public mains:-	
No. of dwellinghouses supplied	1923.
No. of dwellinghouse newly connected during the year.	17
Estimated population supplied	4705
(b) By means of standpipes.	nil.
(c) From private supplies (wells, springs etc.)	
No. of dwellinghouses supplied	24
Estimated population supplied	60

Those in the latter category are situate on the outskirts of the district where there is no access to public mains.

Extensions to the water mains have been carried out during the year as follows:-

81 yards - 3" main in Whittycroft Estate.
278 yards - 3" main in Higher Causeway Estate.

Drainage and Sewerage.

Sewage Disposal Works and Methods of Treatment.	- Automatic screening plant, primary and secondary settling tanks, percolating filters, and humus tanks.

Some extensions to the sewerage system were carried out on the Higher Causeway Estate. During the year 17 new houses were connected to the sewerage system.

There are several houses and farms on the outskirts without proper drainage due to the distance involved from the main sewers.

Closet accommodation at the end of 1955.

Privy middens	
No. of middens	Nil
No. of closets attached to these middens	nil
No of pail closets	22
No. of dry ashpits (excluding middens)	Nil
No. of movable ashbins	1998
No. of trough closets	nil
No. of waste water closets	687
No. of fresh water closets	830
No. of houses on water carriage system	1931
Conversions during 1955:	
No. of waste water closets to fresh water closets	31

Public Cleansing.

This is carried out by direct labour under the control and supervision of your Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector.

Household and trade refuse is collected weekly and disposed of by means of controlled tipping. Movable dustbins are provided by the owners of the premises.

Cesspools are emptied monthly and pail closets twice monthly.

Sanitary Inspections during 1955.

No. of premises in general visited	170
No. of visits to these premises	191
No. of defects or nuisances discovered	308
No. of defects or nuisances abated	295
No. of notices served - Informal	75
- Statutory	nil
No. of legal proceedings	nil

Analysis of Defects or Nuisances discovered during the year.

Defective gutter or rainwater pipes	19
Defective roofs	15
Defective windows	31
Defective wall or ceiling plaster	42
Defective floors	26
Defective drains	39
Defective water closets	47
Defective pointing of walls	23
Dampness	49
Sundry items	17
Total	308

Shops and Offices.

Under the Shops Acts, 1950, 51 inspections of shops were made during the year and conditions were found to be satisfactory.

Under the Public Health Act, 1936, 4 inspections of offices were carried out and conditions found to be satisfactory.

Movable dwellings and Camping Sites.

No sites in the area were used for camping sites during the year, and no licences were issued by the Local Authority under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936 in respect of sites or individual movable dwellings.

Atmospheric Pollution.

There are 8 factory or works chimneys within the district and 4 observations of these were taken during the year. The time limit allowed for the emission of black smoke is 10 minutes per hour and if this is exceeded informal notices are served on the occupiers.

Swimming Baths and Pools.

There were no public baths or pools nor any privately-owned baths or pools open to the public in Barrowford, but public baths and an open air swimming pool in the Borough of Nelson provide facilities which are available to, and used by, Barrowford residents.

Disinfestation.

No houses owned by the local authority were found to require disinfestation, but one other house was disinfested, by treatment with D.D.T. spray. This work is carried out by the Local Authority.

Prevention of Damage By Pests Act, 1949

In addition to sewer and surface treatments the following work was also carried out by the local authroity during the year.

No. of properties inspected under the Act	66
No. of properties treated	26
No. of minor infestations	26

Schools.

Number of schools in the district	2
Sanitary condition of schools:-	
(a) No. of unsatisfactory yard surfaces	nil
(b) Sanitary accommodation - No. of schools with:	
(1) Fresh water closets	2
(2) Waste water closets	nil
(3) Trough closets only	nil
(4) Pail closets only	nil
(5) Privy closets only	Nil
(c) Refuse disposal - No. of schools with:-	
(1) Dustbins.	2
(2) Dry ashpits	nil
(d) Water supply - No. of schools supplied from:-	
(1) Public mains	2
(2) Private supplies	nil
(e) No. of schools where facilities are considered unsatisfactory for:-	
(1) Washing	nil
(2) Drinking	nil
(f) Drainage - No. of schools with drainage to:-	
(1) Public Sewers.	2
(2) Private treatment works.	nil

Offensive Trades.

There are no offensive trades carried on within the area.

Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948.
Part 1.

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health

Premises	No. on Register	Number of:		
		Inspections	Written notices.	Occupiers prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sect 1,2,3,4, & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority.	1	2	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Sect. 7 is enforced by Local Authority.	31	24	1	-
(3) Other premises in which Sect 7 is enforced by Local Authority	..	-	-	-
Total	32	26	1	-

2. Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	Number of cases				No. of cases in which Prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	Referred From H.M. Inspector.	
Defective sanitary convenience	-	-	-	1	-

Part VIII

Outwork
(Sections 110 and 111)

No notification of Outworkers has been received during the year.

Other Premises.

There are no Common Lodging Houses, Houses let in lodgings, or Underground Sleeping Rooms within the area.

No inspections were made of canal boats.

Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951.

Number of registered premises at end of year on which rag flock or other filling materials were used in manufacture of bedding, toys, etc.	1
Number of licensed premises at end of year on which rag flock was	
(a) Manufactured, or manufactured and stored	nil
(b) Stored only	nil
Number of inspections during the year	nil
Number of samples taken.	nil

Chief Sanitary Requirements of the District.

The conversion of the 687 waste water closets to the fresh water system.

Installation of new water service pipes to several groups of houses whose poor supply is due to the inadequacy of old joint service pipes.

HOUSING.

Number of new houses erected during the year:

1. By the local authority	16
2. By other local authorities	nil
3. By other bodies or persons.	1

1. Inspection of dwellinghouses during the year.

(i)	(a) Total no. of dwellinghouses inspected formally or informally for housing defects	89
	(b) No. of inspections made for the purpose	110
(ii)	Dwellinghouses unfit for human habitation and not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered fit.	
	(a) No. found during year.	14
	(b) No. (or estimated no.) at end of year	318
(iii)	No. of dwellinghouses found during the year to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation but capable of being rendered fit	89

2. Clearance Areas

(i)	No. of dwellinghouses demolished during year:	
	(a) Unfit houses	nil
	(b) Other houses	nil
(ii)	No. of persons displaced	nil

3. Houses not in Clearance Areas	No. of Houses.	No. of Persons Displaced.
(i) Houses demolished of closed during year:		
(a) Housing Act, 1936 -		
(i) Demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure (Section 11)	nil	nil
(ii) Closed in pursuance of an undertaking given by owners under Section 11 & still in force.	nil	nil
(iii) Parts of building closed (Section 12)	nil	nil

(b) Housing Act, 1949 -
(i) Closed as a result of closing orders under Sect. 3(1) & 3(2) nil nil
(c) Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953 -
(i) Closed as a result of closing orders under Sect. 10(1) & 11(2) nil nil

(ii) Repairs during the year: No. of houses
(a) Unfit houses rendered fit & houses in which defects were remedied during the period as a result of informal action by the local authority. 75.
(b) Public Health Acts - act on after service of formal notice - Houses in which defects were remedied - -
(i) By owners
(ii) By local authority in default of owners -
(c) Housing Act, 1936 - action after service of formal notice (Sect. 9, 10, 11 & 16) Houses made fit -
(i) By owners
(ii) By local authority in default of owners -
(d) Housing Repair & Rents Act, 1954: Houses reconstructed, enlarged or improved and Demolition Orders revoked (Section 5) -

4. Unfit houses in temporary use.

(i) No. of houses at end of year retained for temporary accommodation & approved for grant under Section 7 -
(ii) No. of separate dwellings contained in (i) above -
(iii) No. of houses at end of year licensed for temporary occupation (Sect. 6) -

5. Housing Act, 1949 - Improvement Grants, etc.

Action during year:	Scheme of private bodies or individuals.	Schemes of Local Authority
(a) Submitted by private individuals to local authority.	12	-
(b) Submitted by local authority to Ministry	nil	nil
(c) Finally approved by Ministry	nil	nil
(d) Work completed.	12	nil
(e) Additional separate dwellings included in (d) above	nil	nil
(f) Any other action taken under the act.	nil	

Housing Conditions

Although housing conditions generally are not unsatisfactory, there are quite a number of houses not up to modern standards. This latter group includes approximately 300 houses, mainly of the back-to-back type, which have no separate water closet or adequate sanitary accommodation. Approximately 64 houses in the area have insufficient internal water supply.

There is still a demand for the modern house, as indicated by the Council's waiting list on which at the end of the year there were 117 families requiring houses of the one, two or three bedroomed types. This figure included 49 applications from outside the district.

No special difficulties were encountered in providing suitable sites for new houses, and at the end of the year your Authority had 16 houses in the course of erection and a further 24 contemplated.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION

OF FOOD

Milk Supply.

The following action has been taken during the year with regard to the administration of the Milk and Dairies Acts and Regulations.

The Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949 -
Number of registered distributors operating from:-

(a) Dairies in the district	1
(b) Shops in the district other than dairies	15
(c) Premises outside the district	3

The Milk (Special Designation)(Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949-54.
Number of dealer's licences (including supplementary licences) issued by the local authority during 1955 in respect of "Tuberculin Tested" Milk. 7

The Milk (Special Designation)(Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949-1953.
Number of licences issued in respect of "heat treated" milk.

(1) Pasteurising plants	nil
(2) Sterilising plants	nil
(3) Retail distributors	
(a) "Pasteurised"	7
(b) "Sterilised"	17

No refusal or revocation of a licence for graded milk was found to be necessary.

No structural alterations or improvements were carried out to dairies during the year.

Milk Sampling.

Informal samples of milk are taken by the staff of the Public Health Department, Nelson, and during the year the following samples were taken:

Raw Milk -	Samples taken	Result	
(i) Tuberculosis - biological tests:	31	Negative	28
		Positive	Nil
		No result	3
(ii) Methyline Blue reduction tests:	31	Satisfactory	27
		Unsatisfactory	4

No Ministry investigation by the Divisional Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries was carried out within the district during the year arising from the notification of tuberculosis milk.

No action was requiried to be taken during the year under Regulation 20 of the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949

Meat and Other Foods.

There is no licensed slaughterhouse in Barrowford and so all meat for the area comes from external sources.

A general inspection is carried out of shops and other premises where food is prepared.

No. of food premises, by type of business, in the district at the end of the year:-

General grocers and provisions dealers	25
Greengrocers and fruiterers (incl. wet fish and game etc.)	7
Fishmongers (incl. poultry, game, etc.)	5
Meat shops (butchers, cooked meats, etc.)	7
Bakers and/or confectioners	4
Fried fish shops	2
Sweet Shops (minerals, ice cream, etc.)	6
Licensed premises, clubs, canteens, restaurants, cafes, snack bars, etc.	14
Others	32

There were no special examinations of food stocks or consignments carried out during the year.

Any food condemned as unfit for human consumption is disposed of by incineration.

Food Poisoning.

No cases of food poisoning or suspected cases were reported during the year.

Food and Drugs Acts, 1938-50

The Food and Drugs Authority for the area is the Lancashire County Council and samples of milk and other foods for analysis are taken in the district by an officer of that authority.

The following information relative to the samples taken in Barrowford during 1955, has been kindly supplied to me by Dr. S. C. Gawne, the County Medical Officer of Health.

A total of 26 samples was obtained; of these 18 were of milk (this includes 2 Channel Islands milks) and the 8 others comprised:-

1 Double Cream	1 Cake mixture, sweetened.
1 Cough Medicine	1 Self-raising flour.
1 Camphorated oil	2 Ice cream.
1 Olive oil	

All the above samples were reported by the County Analyst to be genuine with the exception of one of ice cream, which was reported to have a fat content of only 3.5% and a milk solids other than fat content of only 7.1% In respect of this sample, a formal sample was obtained and this was found upon analysis to be a sample of genuine ice cream.

Clean Food Campaign.

No special action was taken by your Council during the year, but byelaws for the handling, etc., of food were adopted in 1950, and general inspection of food premises is carried out.

Ice Cream.

At the end of the year 16 premises were registered under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938 - Section 14; 3 of these for the manufacture and sale of ice-cream and 13 for the sale only of ice-cream.

Seventeen inspections were made of these premises during the year.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL

OVER

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

During the year 38 cases of infectious diseases were notified, particulars of which are shown in the following table.

Notifiable Disease	Total cases of all ages.	Total cases notified Age period - years 0-	1-	3-	5-	10-	15-	25-	45-	65 and over	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever	4	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	25	1	4	5	15	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-
Acute Poliomyelitis Paralytic	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Non-paralytic	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis-Respiratory	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	-
Totals	38	1	4	7	17	1	1	2	3	2	-

The arrangement has been maintained whereby the enquiries into, and the following up, of cases of infectious diseases is carried out by the staff of the Public Health Department, Nelson, under my direction, and during the year 12 visits were paid for this purpose.

Five cases were admitted to isolation hospital during 1955, and these were 3 cases of Scarlet Fever and 2 cases of Acute Poliomyelitis (one paralytic and one non-paralytic).

The following table shows the cases rates for certain infectious diseases for England and Wales, Nelson and Barrowford.

Case Rates for certain Infectious Diseases for England and Wales, Nelson and Barrowford.

Disease	England and Wales	Nelson	Barrowford
	Rates per 1000 home population		
Typhoid fever	0.00	nil	nil
Paratyphoid fever	0.02	nil	nil
Meningococcal infection	0.03	nil	nil
Scarlet fever	0.73	0.60	0.84
Whooping cough	1.78	1.50	nil
Diphtheria	0.00	nil	nil
Erysipelas	0.10	0.06	nil
Smallpox	nil	nil	nil
Measles	15.61	11.19	5.26
Pneumonia	0.63	0.57	0.63
Acute Poliomyelitis			
Paralytic	0.08	0.18	0.21
Non-paralytic	0.06	0.03	0.21
Acute encephalitis			
Infective	0.00	0.09	nil
Post-infectious	0.00	nil	nil
Dysentery	0.83	0.18	nil
Food poisoning	0.29	0.18	nil
Puerperal pyrexia	0.27	nil	nil
Tuberculosis			
Respiratory	0.77	0.72	0.84
Meninges & C.N.S.	0.01	nil	nil
Other	0.09	0.06	nil

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Infective	0.00	0.09	nil
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Food poisoning	0.29	0.18	nil
Puerperal pyrexia	0.27	nil	nil
Tuberculosis			
Respiratory	0.77	0.72	0.84
Meninges & C.N.S.	0.01	nil	nil
Other	0.09	0.06	nil

Tuberculosis.

During the year 3 new cases of tuberculosis (2 males and 1 female - all respiratory) were notified. In addition 3 cases (2 males-respiratory and 1 female - non-respiratory) were transferred into the area, and 8 cases were removed from the register. Of the latter, 4 cases left the district, 3 were "written off" as "Recovered" and 1 patient died.

At the end of the year there were 33 cases on the register, 24 respiratory (13 males and 11 females) and 9 non-respiratory cases (2 males and 7 females).

No action has been found necessary during the year under Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, or under the Public Health Act, 1936, Section 172.

Disinfection after Infectious Diseases.

The arrangement between your authority and the Borough of Nelson, whereby this work is carried out by the staff of the Public Health Department, Nelson, continues to operate and during the year, 12 rooms in 10 houses, 105 articles of bedding and clothing, and 22 miscellaneous articles have been disinfected.

Formalin spray and vapour is used for the premises and infected articles of bedding and clothing are subjected to steam disinfection, the apparatus used being situate at the Destructor Works, Charles Street, Nelson, and owned by Nelson Corporation.